

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KABUL 09038 281157Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 W
-----021928 281200Z /20
P 281123Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5828

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 9038

NEA ONLY: FOR DUBS FROM ELIOT

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (DAOUD, MOHAMMAD), AF, US
SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRESIDENT DAOUD TO U.S.

1. I HAVE BEEN REFLECTING SOME MORE ON OUR CONVERSATION IN KATHMANDU ABOUT THE POSSIBLE POSTPONEMENT OF PRESIDENT DAOUD'S VISIT AND WANT TO REINFORCE TO YOU MY COMMENTS ON THAT OCCASION. I THINK ANY POSTPONEMENT AFTER THE SUMMER OF 1978, THE PERIOD FOR WHICH THE SECRETARY EXTENDED THE INVITATION, WOULD BE EXTREMELY BADLY RECEIVED BY DAOUD. MORE IMPORTANT, HE WOULD CONCLUDE THAT WE ARE NOT TAKING SERIOUSLY HIS REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR AFGHAN INDEPENDENCE AT A CRITICAL TIME IN AFGHAN HISTORY WHEN HE IS TRYING TO BUILD POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS WHICH WILL NOT ONLY BUTTRESS AFGHAN INDEPENDENCE BUT ALSO SURVIVE HIM. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE POST-PONEMENT WOULD CAST A CLOUD OVER THE TOTALITY OF OUR RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT THE AFGHANS WOULD TAKE ANY OVERT STEPS TO SHOW THEIR DISPLEASURE; THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO DO THIS BECAUSE OF THEIR CONTINUING FUNDAMENTAL NEED FOR OUR SUPPORT. BUT, IN LESS VITAL MATTERS, RANGING FROM THE PEACE CORPS AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS TO COMMERCIAL VENTURES LIKE THE KANDAHAR CEMENT PLANT, I BELIEVE WE WOULD SEE A LESS HOSPITABLE CLIMATE HERE. IT MIGHT POSSIBLY ALSO AFFECT OUR NARCOTICS RELATIONSHIP.

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2. I AM SENDING YOU THIS MESSAGE BECAUSE I WANT TO BE CERTAIN THAT THOSE CONCERNED WITH THIS DECISION IN WASHINGTON ARE AWARE BEFOREHAND OF SOME OF THE CONSEQUENCES THAT MIGHT ENSUE.
ELIOT

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KABUL09038
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770483-0058
Format: TEL
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771213/aaaaakal.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 77005efc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 122378
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF PRESIDENT DAOUD TO U.S.
TAGS: OVIP, AF, US, (DAOUD, MOHAMMAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/77005efc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009